

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 19, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, July 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 11 LaFayette Street. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on July 15, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, Daniel Hepner, Bob Roberts, Manager David Greene, and Solicitor Mark Jacob. Richard Dornisch arrived at 7:01 p.m. Richard Gabler, Jr. was present but was retrieving information upstairs and entered at 7:02.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Fred Haas, Bob Buerk, Sandy Buerk, Rick Werneth, Fritz Lecker, Clark Lecker, Warren Stewart, Steve Luckenbill, Chris Lukenbill, Richard Sadley, Ken Young, Rev. Chris Kindel and Sally Wilson. Dean Ball from PennDOT (did not sign in)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
July 12, 2010

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of July 12, 2010, seconded by Steven Skok.

Steven Skok noted the following correction was needed:
Add Lynda Pontzer as a visitor who did not sign in.

All were in favor to approve the July 12, 2010 minutes with the above noted correction.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
PennDOT, re: S. St. Marys Street/
SR255 Project

Dean Ball representative from PennDOT presented the following update on the St. St. Marys Street/Route 255 Project.

Design highlights included;

- The existing 5 lane section from Wendy's to Random Road (Dairy Queen) will remain 5 – 11.5 foot lanes with minimum of 3 foot shoulders.
- The five lane section with center turn lane will be extended from Random Road to 250 feet past Iron Run Road. This will provide left turn lanes for Pistner Road, West Theresia Road and Iron Run Road.
- From just north of Iron Run Road to SR120 the new roadway will consist of 4 – 11.5 foot lanes with 3 foot shoulders. The existing 5 lane configuration at the SR120 intersection, near the elementary school, will remain as is. The new 4 lane configuration will require widening of the existing road 4 feet on each side along with some tree trimming or removal for relocation of the overhead utility poles, street lights and affected underground utilities.
- A right turn lane will be constructed for north bound traffic at Vine Street.

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- The existing offset intersection at Arch Street will be realigned to provide a safer and more efficient configuration for turn movements.
- SR120 will be widened, from Rock Street to South St Marys Street, to include 2 – 11 foot lanes and 4 foot shoulders with a right turn lane to be added at the intersection for vehicles turning south on SR255.
- Radius improvements will be made at the SR120 intersection providing safer turning movements from south bound SR255 traffic.
- New signal equipment and hardware to include LED traffic and pedestrian signal indications, ADA compliant pedestrian push-buttons, video loop detection, and emergency signal preemption, pending city ordinance, will be installed at;

SR255/Walmart Road(Tractor Supply)
 SR255/St. Marys School Road
 SR255/Ford Road
 SR255/St. Marys Plaza Road
 SR255/Vine Street
 SR255/Arch Street
 SR255/State Street (SR120)

- Right of Way required will include 1 residential property and 4 business properties.
- All ADA ramps and pedestrian crossings will be upgraded as part of the project.
- Drainage upgrades include new inlets with upgraded pipe designs.

Richard Gabler, Jr. commented it was appreciated that PennDOT listened to the resident's concerns.

Daniel Hepner wanted to know the time line of the project and Mr. Ball responded the fall of 2011 or spring of 2012.

Richard Dornisch was concerned with the cost already incurred.

Bob Roberts was concerned with the emergency signal preemption system, because any new signals purchased by the City after the project would be required to be added to the system.

Mr. Ball explained Jim Roman from PennDOT would send a model ordinance for Council to review regarding the emergency signal preemption system.

Mayor Geyer thanked Mr. Ball for his presentation.

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**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MANAGER'S REPORT

June 24- Met with Tim Wachter from First Energy Solutions to hear about a new program for savings on electric bills for St. Marys residents. The program is called Pennsylvania Municipal Aggregation.

June 28- Attended the 10th Anniversary of Goetz's Flower Shop and St. Marys Hardware.

June 29- Matt Young and I met with George Fetchko from Gerster/Trane and toured the buildings for the Energy Audits.

July 1- Members of City Council and I toured the remodeled Giant Eagle store in the St. Marys Plaza.

July 8- Members of City Council and I attended the Grand Opening of the new Giant Eagle grocery store.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the Expenditures from June 13, 2010 to July 14, 2010, seconded by Richard Dornisch.

Richard Dornisch questioned a line item regarding payment to Downtown Graphics in the amount of \$1,650.00. Manager Greene responded it was for replacement of the banners for the Boulevard. The original purchase of the banners was ten years ago.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Expenditures.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer presented the following Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2010:

June is the half-way mark for the City. Total revenue collected for the general fund was \$3.4 million or 60.82 percent of budget. Last year at this time the City collected \$3.7 million or 60.33 percent of budget. Total expenditures for the general fund were at \$2.3 million or 41.21 percent of budget. Last year's expenditures were at \$2.5 million or 41.74 percent of budget. Total real estate taxes collected was 93.05 percent of budget with 93.96 percent of budget for last year. Earned income collected was 49.97 percent of budget and last year 51.04 percent of budget was collected. The City collected 44 percent of budget for this year and for 2009 at this time the City collected 49 percent of budget for EMS or Local Services tax. The market value of the pension plans has dropped since last month.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Award of Bid, re: Paving Services

The following bid for "Blacktop Patching Services" was opened during a public meeting held on Monday, July 12, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall.

St. Marys Paving, St. Marys

- 19mm binder- \$126.00 per ton applied
- 9.5mm wearing course- \$133.00 per ton applied

Michael Mullaney, Public Works Director recommended the bid be awarded to St. Marys Paving.

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Motion Passed

Richard Gabler, Jr., made a motion to award the bid to St. Marys Paving, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

Consider for Publication:

Ordinance No. 258, re: Increasing Contract Bidding Requirements

Ordinance No. 258 was presented amending the Administrative Code Part 1- (H) Contracts, Section 171, When Bidding is Required, Section 173, Exceptions to Advertising Requirements and Section 177, Evasion of Advertising Requirements. The changes increase the Contract Bidding Requirement from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

Motion

Dennis Nero made a motion to publish Ordinance No. 258, seconded by Steven Skok.

Richard Dornisch objected and did not see any reason for an increase.

Bob Roberts commented the next Ordinance on the agenda puts in place the controls that were removed in 2006.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to publish Ordinance No. 258, except Richard Dornisch who opposed.

Ordinance No. 259, re: Re-Instating Amount Needed for Obtaining Quotes

Ordinance No. 259 was presented amending the Administrative Code to re-instate Section 174, - "Small Contracts". All contracts or purchases by the City involving an expenditure of at least \$10,000 but less than \$25,000 shall only be approved after a reasonable attempt has been made to obtain three (3) written price quotations. All contracts involving expenditure equal to or exceeding \$25,000 shall not require written price quotations but shall be subject to the bidding process.

Motion

Bob Roberts made a motion to publish Ordinance No. 259, seconded by Dennis Nero.

Mayor Geyer questioned why two Ordinances were needed and Solicitor Jacob responded the first Ordinance changed the amounts for bidding the second Ordinance reinstates the amount needed for quotations.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to publish Ordinance No. 259, except Richard Dornisch who opposed.

Reschedule of September 6, 2010 Council worksession (Labor Day Holiday)

Mayor Geyer stated the Monday, September 6, 2010 Council worksession will be rescheduled for Tuesday, September 7, 2010.

Request from St. Marys Chamber of Commerce, re: Close parking lot and waiver of open container law for "Brew Fest"

A request was received from the St. Marys Chamber of Commerce to waive the Open Container Law on Saturday, October 2, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. and to close the municipal parking lot between Market Street and S. St. Marys Street on Saturday, October 2, 2010 beginning at 8:00 a.m. for the "Brew Fest".

Motion

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the Chamber's request, seconded by Steven Skok. Richard Gabler, Jr. clarified the open container law would be waived for the above mentioned parking lot area only.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Chamber's request.

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(Added to Agenda) Request from
Bavarian Fall Fest Committee

Sally Wilson presented Council with another request from the Bavarian Fall Fest Committee. The request was to close LaFayette Street from Erie Avenue to Washington Street, use of the parking lot adjacent to City Hall, and to eliminate parking on the west side of the Boulevard to utilize that area for vendor booths for October 1st thru October 3rd, 2010, set up to begin at 4:00 p.m. on October 1st, 2010.

Motion

Richard Gabler, Jr. made a motion to approve the Bavarian Fall Fest Committee request, seconded by Dennis Nero.

Steven Skok clarified that they were consulting with the Chief of Police; Mayor Geyer stated it shouldn't affect the traffic flow.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Bavarian Fall Fest Committee's request.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Stormwater Management Plan

Matthew Pfeufer, Zoning Officer presented Council with comments and questions that would be presented to the Elk County Commissioners at their next scheduled meeting regarding the Elk County Stormwater Management Plan.

Council had a lengthy discussion regarding the adoption of the Plan by Elk County. They expressed their concerns on how it will impact plans for new construction, the financial impact the Plan will have on the City and its residents, and the legality of the Plan.

Council Committees

Council had a lengthy discussion regarding reinstating the Council Committees that have not been implemented since 2006. Bob Roberts stated his desire to implement the following committees:

- Administration
- Finance
- Economic Development
- Public Safety/Roads

There were conflicting opinions on the need for the Committees. It will be placed on the next Council agenda for consideration.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

Chris Kindle, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church, approached Council and gave details of the future plans for their property on S. Michael Road.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Gabler announced the Picnic in the Park will be held July 31st and August 1st, 2010 at Memorial Park. There are numerous community based events planned.

Councilman Nero requested an update on the Parking Garage. Manager Greene responded the paperwork for DEP approval has been forwarded from the Meadville Office to Harrisburg. He hoped to have a response within a few days.

Councilman Roberts stated there will be a demonstration Monday, July 26th at 10:00 a.m. on a new micro-resurfacing technique at the City Garage.

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Councilman Skok stated the PIB loan is being held up due to approval needed by PennDOT of the selected roads.

Councilman Roberts stated there was a possibility the pending road work may have to wait until spring.

Mayor Geyer stated information from the Courier Express regarding estimates from the Census Bureau for 2009. The bad news was the City lost 1053 people since the last census, which brings the total residents down to 13, 318. The good news was the City is still the highest populated area in three surrounding counties. (Clearfield, Elk and Jefferson)


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council worksession will be held Monday, August 2, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be celebrated on the Diamond, Friday, July 23rd, 2010, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Dornisch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.



Recording Secretary

Mayor